

In 1996 Teresa tested in Pittsburgh her idea on how best to ensure early childhood education development was not just talked about but actually pursued. With a coalition of business leaders, the Heinz endowments launched Teresa's early childhood initiative, called ECI, to begin to tackle the issues of early childhood education and make sure that no family was left behind. In 1998 Teresa founded the Women's Institute to secure retirement, called WISER, to ensure that women, whether they work in or out of the home, would understand pension and retirement issues. Through a partnership with Good Housekeeping magazine, a magazine and supplement entitled "What Every Woman Needs to Know About Money and Retirement," women are better able to be informed and educated on how to prepare for their financial future. That supplement has reached more than 25 million readers and is available in English, Chinese, Portuguese, and Spanish today.

Perhaps the most notable is the work that Teresa has done to help explain to legislators at the State and Federal levels, Jack Heinz's vision which he articulated, by the way, more than 14 years ago, that we need to make available a prescription drug benefit to all people 65 and over.

Through her work at Heinz family philanthropies, Teresa has spearheaded an effort to help legislators understand this complex issue and how states can design solutions to solve this problem—now reaching a crisis state in our country. Dubbed HOPE, the Heinz plan to meet prescription expenses is used by many States such as Massachusetts, Maine, Mississippi, and Pennsylvania which work with the foundation on strategies to provide prescription drugs for the elderly.

That is perhaps the best example of what I believe is the spirit of John Heinz, designing a blueprint to help states determine whether and how they can and whether they will address such a crisis.

Because of Teresa Heinz, the Heinz Family Foundation pursues efforts to keep Jack's spirit and vision alive. That is why I am here. And for that, each of us should be grateful. I personally thank her for all she has done.

Mr. President, John Heinz, as I said, was my friend. In my own way, I celebrate his spirit each day when I walk on the Senate floor. He is no longer with us in person, but his spirit, his vision, and his unrelenting belief in hope lives with all of us.

I am proud to have known this man, John Heinz, and I am proud he was my friend. To Teresa and his three sons, John, André and Christopher, I send this message: Jack's spirit is right here on the Senate floor. Be assured we will never, ever forget who he was, what he stood for or his dream for America.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent there be a period for morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection it is so ordered.

SENATOR JOHN HEINZ

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, 10 years ago today a tragic accident occurred in the Philadelphia suburbs claiming the life of a very distinguished United States Senator. In addition, two 6-year-old girls were killed at the Marion Elementary School, as well as four pilots who were in charge of two aircraft which collided in suburban Philadelphia—a small charter plane carrying Senator Heinz from Williamsport, PA, with the destination of Philadelphia, and two pilots on a Sun Oil helicopter which had attempted to observe the landing gear of the small private plane, which, according to the dashboard, were not in place.

Those two planes collided in midair resulting in the deaths, as I say, of the four pilots and wounding many on the ground, including one young man who had 68 percent of his body covered with burns, and the deaths of two 6-year-old girls, and it was a fatal accident for Senator Heinz.

Senator Heinz had an illustrious career in the Congress of the United States. I first met him in 1971 when he was running for the seat of former Congressman Robert Corbin, who had died. And Elsie Hillman, the matriarch of Pennsylvania politics, and a leading figure nationally, had asked me to come be a speaker for a John Heinz fundraiser in her home.

I was then the district attorney of Philadelphia. I recall very well meeting this good-looking young man who was 32 years old, soon to be elected to the House of Representatives, and saw him in one of his maiden speeches charm the crowd and move on to the House of Representatives.

My next extensive contact with John Heinz was in the 1976 primary election where we squared off in what was a traditional Pennsylvania battle of east versus west. I was no longer the district attorney but had a significant following within the metropolitan area in eastern Pennsylvania, and John Heinz was the "Zion" of the west. It looked promising for a while when Philadelphia came in 10 to 1 in my favor and then United Press International declared me the winner at 1:30. But Allegheny County and some of the western counties came in as much as 15 to 1. This was a very close vote by 2.6 percent. With 26,000 votes out of a million cast, John Heinz became the U.S. Senator following the 1976 election at the age of 38.

He was a very distinguished Senator, as the record shows. He had a place on

the Finance Committee. He had a place on the Banking Committee. He was chairman of the Aging Committee. It was rumored that he intended to run for Governor of Pennsylvania in 1994, and that he had aspirations for the White House. Of course, those potentialities were snuffed out by his untimely death.

John Heinz had unlimited political potential and was really one of the rising stars on the American political scene. His death left an enormous void in Pennsylvania politics, in American politics, and in the Senate.

I had seen him just the day before when we were in Altoona, PA, together. We were speaking at a lunch for the hospital association and had become very good friends after our tough primary battle which had occurred some 15 years before. Senator Hugh Scott and his administrative assistant, Bob Kunsic, had counseled John and me when he was elected to the Senate in 1980, that together we wouldn't be twice as strong but we would be four times as strong.

I used to drive John Heinz home. We both lived in Georgetown—he in a mansion and I in a condominium. In the early 1980s, Senator Baker used to work us very late, as did Senator Dole, and then Senator BYRD and then Senator Mitchell, our majority leaders. I would drive him home in the wee hours of the morning. And sometimes after 1 a.m., after one of those 20-hour days, we would sit and talk in his back alley before he entered his home, and we called it an end to the day.

The day before he died, I had Joan with me. I called her Blondie, which I do from time to time, and he was surprised. The last words I heard John Heinz say was, "Does she call you Dagwood?" I said, "No, she doesn't, John."

But in memory of John Heinz there have been many posthumous recognitions. The most important of all are the Heinz Awards, established by his then-widow Teresa Heinz, with very substantial endowments in five categories which were of greatest importance to John Heinz. They were: First, arts and humanities; second, environment; third, human condition; fourth, public policy; and, fifth, technology, the economy, and employment.

John Heinz left behind three extraordinary sons, Henry John IV, Andre, and Christopher. Hardly a day goes by that I don't think of John Heinz and the great contributions he made to the United States Senate.

I am advised that once a Member has been gone for 10 years, the Member is then eligible to have a stamp named after him. I am sure there will be many awards given to John Heinz. Already the numbers are significant, with the John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center; the H. John Heinz Center for Science, Economics and the Environment; the H. John Heinz, III School